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1. (currently amended) An input device for selecting a channel in a digital television, comprising: a keypad including a plurality of number keys for inputting respective numbers; and a delimiter key for inputting a delimiter, where a channel is indicated by a major and minor channel number sequence which includes a major channel number input through one or more number keys of the keypad, a delimiter input through the delimiter key, and a minor channel number input through one or more number keys of the keypad, an enter key:

wherein the delimiter is a non-alphanumeric symbol not entered by the enter key.

2. (original). The input device of claim 1, where the delimiter is a dot.
3. (original). The input device of claim 1, where the keypad includes at least one key which can be used to input a letter.

4. (canceled). The input device of claim 1, further comprising an enter key.

5. (original). The input device of claim 1, further comprising a channel command key for selecting a sequentially adjacent channel.

6. (currently amended) The input device of claim 1, further comprising a second keypad, where the first keypad is for inputting a major channel number and the second keypad is for inputting a minor channel number, wherein both keypads are disposed on a portable remote control device.

7-23 (canceled).

24. (currently amended) A method for selecting a channel in a digital television, comprising: receiving a major and minor channel number sequence, including a major channel number, a delimiter, and a minor channel number, where the delimiter separates the major channel number and the minor channel number; identifying a physical channel which corresponds to the major and minor channel number sequence by

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accessing a channel look up table, where the channel look up table includes correspondences between major and minor channel number sequences and physical channels; identifying a virtual channel table which corresponds to the physical channel, where the virtual channel table indicates a virtual channel which corresponds to the major and minor channel number sequence, the delimiter being entered by means other than an "enter" key and being a non-alphanumeric symbol.

25. (original) The method of claim 24, further comprising: tuning to the physical channel to receive a signal carried on the physical channel; and decoding the virtual channel from the tuned signal.

26. (original) The method of claim 25, where the virtual channel table indicates one or more packet identifiers which correspond to the virtual channel, and decoding the virtual channel further comprises using the indicated packet identifiers.

27. (original) The method of claim 24, where the major and minor channel number sequence is generated by deriving a major and minor channel number sequence corresponding to a sequentially adjacent channel relative to a currently decoded virtual channel.

28. (original) The method of claim 24, where the major and minor channel number sequence is generated by deriving a major and minor channel number sequence corresponding to a sequentially adjacent channel relative to a currently tuned physical channel.

29. (currently amended) A method for selecting a channel in a digital television, comprising: inputting a major channel number which indicates a frequency band; [[and]] inputting a channel selection which, in combination with the major channel number, indicates a channel associated with the major channel number; and

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inputting a delimiter between the major channel number and the channel selection, where the delimiter is a dot.

30. (original) The method of claim 29, where inputting a channel selection comprises selecting a channel from a list displayed in a menu, where the menu lists one or more channels associated with the major channel number.

31. (original) The method of claim 29, where inputting a channel selection comprises inputting a minor channel number.

32-36. (canceled).

37. (currently amended) A system for selecting a channel in a digital television, comprising: means for receiving a major and minor channel number sequence, including a major channel number, a delimiter, and a minor channel number, where the delimiter separates the major channel number and the minor channel number; means for identifying a physical channel which corresponds to the major and minor channel number sequence by accessing a channel look up table, where the channel look up table includes correspondences between major and minor channel number sequences and physical channels; and means for identifying a virtual channel table which corresponds to the physical channel, where the virtual channel table indicates a virtual channel which corresponds to the major and minor channel number sequence, wherein the means for inputting a delimiter is not an "enter" key of a keypad.

38. (original) The method of claim 37, further comprising: means for tuning to the physical channel to receive a signal carried on the physical channel; and means for decoding the virtual channel from the tuned signal.

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